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PK 03-133

DATE

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JUL 30 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

By Fax: 202-418-0710

Dear Chairman Powell:

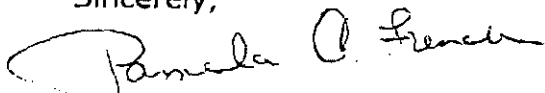
I am writing you in support of AT&T's prepaid calling card filing, Docket 03-133. I am one of many military retirees who can attest to the value of low-cost, prepaid cards for men and women in service.

The cost of prepaid calling cards has stayed low, sometimes as low as 3 cents per minute, simply because users hear an advertising message before placing a call, making these calling cards an information or enhanced service versus basic calling service. Because of this classification, many prepaid cards are exempt from intra-state access fees which drive up the cost of calling. Enhanced prepaid calls are also exempt from Universal Service Fund contributions. All this, and no one is hurting.

Local phone companies pocket millions of dollars for carrying calling card traffic through inter-state fees. Local phone companies also withdraw millions of dollars from the Universal Service Fund. At the same time, consumers are enjoying affordable and readily-available long distance calling options through prepaid cards. The system isn't broken and doesn't need to be fixed.

I urge you to *not* eliminate an affordable option for military personnel and many other Americans simply to subsidize some of America's richest corporations. Please resist levying additional fees on enhanced prepaid calling cards.

Sincerely,



Name

Military info

Home address with city, state and zip

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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